

# SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE

HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S

# CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

CONTAINING

CONSTITUTION, THEASURERS ACCOUNTS, LIST OF MEMBERS

RECEIVED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 28, 1871.

HALIFAX:
"NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY,"
1871,



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# JAMES B. MORROW.

# Dice-Presidents. W 19 W and the work

DR. SLAYTER. W. H. WISWELL.

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D. BLACKWOOD. W. B. McNUTT. M. M. LINDSAY R. N. BECKWITH

# Recording Secretary and Albrarian.

A. W. EATON.

# Corresponding Secretary. ARCHIBALD PATTERSON.

# Ereasurer.

# SAMUEL H. BLACK.

J. S. Macters (Chairman) Dr. Slavers, A. Papersham R. N. Brenwitte W. R. McMeter, S. H. Unaux, Lowens Joseph Document (The Ret-massed in each Committee is Chairman 1

# General and Reception Committee.

WM. ROCHE, JUNE, ..... E. D. KING. J. S. MACLEAN. DR. DELANEY, W. S. STIRLING.
JOHN S. SMITH. P. C. HILL. WM. H. WADDELL, OMELITIES W. G. PENDER. J. H. TOWNSEND. AND GRANT DR. MILSOM. HON. DR. PARKER. H. N. PAINT. CHAS. E. PUTNER WAR TO WM. H. WEBB.

D. HENRY STARR. EDWARD JOST.
J. C. MACINTOSH. W. H. NEAL. JAS. FARQUHAR. THE PROPERTY AND T. A. BROWN. J. C. MAHON. H. P. BURTON. A. PATTERSON. SAMUEL BROOKFIELD. GEO. CUNNINGHAM. WALTER B. REYNOLDS... J. S. BELCHER. HON. S. L. SHANNON.

### STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1871.

#### LECTURES.

D. HENRY STARR, (Chairman,) R. N. BECKWITH, WM. H. WISWELL, WM. H. WEBB, D. BLACKWOOD, DR. GORDON.

#### BIBLE CLASS AND PRAYER MEETING.

A. Patterson, M. M. Lindsay, W. B. McNutt, Wm. Roche, T. A. Brown, D. J. Smith, Dr. Delaney.

#### ROOMS AND LIBRARY.

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J. C. Macintosh, W. H. Wiswell, J. S. Belcher, W. S. Stirling, W. H. Waddell, E. D. King, Dr. Gordon, D. Blackwood.

#### FINANCE.

THE PRESIDENT, H. N. PAINT, J. S. MACLEAN, J. H. TOWNSEND, W. G. PENDER.

#### MEMBERSHIP.

R. N. BECKWITH, H. P. BURTON, GEO. CUNNINGHAM, JOSEPH H. TOWNSEND, CHAS. E. PUTNER, DR. TRENAMAN, DR. MILSOM.

#### VISITING SICK.

M. M. LINDSAY, W. B. MCNUTT, WALTER B. REYNOLDS, CHAS. E. PUTNER.

#### TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

JAS. FARQUHAR, J. S. SMITH, EDWARD JOST, JOHN GRIERSON, J. C. MAHON.

#### STRANGERS AND EMPLOYMENT.

The President, J. S. Maolean, H. N. Paint, W. H. Neal, Jas. Farquhar, W. G. Pender, Samuel Broompield.

# LITERARY.

W. H. Wiswell, J. C. Macintosh, W. Roche, E. D. King, D. Blackwood, Jos. H. Townsend, W. H. Webb.

#### BUILDING.

HON. DR. PARKER, (Chairman), The President, J. S. MAGLEAN, EDWARD JOST, J. C. MACKINTOSH, HON. S. L. SHANNON, P. C. HILL, W. H. WISWELL, M. M. LINDSAY, D. HENRY STARR, H. P. BURCON, W. H. NEAL, SAMUEL BROOKFIELD, DR. DELANEY, JOS. H. TOWNERN.

#### MUSICAL AND SOCIAL.

W. H. WADDELL, M. M. LINDSAY, J. S. SMITH, W. H. WISWELL, J. C. MACINTOSH, WM. ROCHE, D. HENRY STAR, J. C. MAHON, CHAS. E. POTREIS, D. J. SMITH, JUN. MILSON, DR. TREMAMEN, JOS. H. BELGERE.

# CITY MISSION.

J. S. Maclean, (Chairman), Dr. Slayter, A. Patterson, R. N. Beckwith, W. B. McNutt, S. H. Black, Edward Jost, Dr. Gordon.

(The first-named in each Committee is Chairman.)

# REPORT.

In submitting this, the seventeenth report of our Association, your Committee cannot but express heartfelt gratitude, that God has been pleased to smile upon our endeavours for the promotion of His cause by this instrumentality during the year.

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W. H.

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JOST,

At no period in the history of Young Men's Christian Associations has there appeared such marked appreciation of the principles which anite us; this is apparent not only in this City, but throughout the entire Province.

For the cheering addition to the membership, we refer to statistics given by the chairman of the Membership Committee.

About the first of June the annual invitation from the Executive Committee of the Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, was received, requesting the sending of delegates to Indianapolis. Those appointed were Messrs. J. S. Maclean, J. F. Campbell and James Forrest.

The meetings of that Convention were peculiarly interesting, and their records have been perused with thankfulness by many whose souls glow with love for the Great Redeemer's Kingdom.

Your Committee desire to recognize, as an international courtesy, the honour done our Dominion, Province and Association, in the election of our late worthy President, John S. Maclean, to the office of President of that Convention.

Oh the return of your delegates, a meeting was held in Grafton St. Church, where they delivered their report of proceedings.

Your Committee would suggest the desirableness of all who can make it convenient, attending the Convention proposed to be held in Washington in the present year.

The annual Convention of the Associations of the Maritime Provinces was held at Charlottetown in September; the following brethren were your representatives to that body:—

J. B. Morrow, W. H. Waddell, D. McEwan, J. C. Anderson, E. D. King, H. W. C. Boak, Joseph H. Townsend, W. P. Archibald, Dr. Delaney, C. E. Putner, Jos. S. Belcher, Richard Owens, and W. Montgomery.

These brethren also reported at a social meeting held in Mason Hall, shortly after their return.

The next Convention is to be held in St. John.

The preparation of a new selection of hymns has also formed an item of Association work, and your Committee are glad to announce

that it has been completed satisfactorily, and is now generally adopted

by the Provincial Associations.

They have also to notice the retirement from office of Mr. Thomas Clarke, the Secretary, to whose diligence in the performance of duty, courtesy and attention to members and visitors, and deep interest in the welfare of the Association they cheerfully testify. that success may attend him in his new engagement. To fill the vacancy, the services of Mr. A. W. Eaton have been secured.

On behalf of the Association, they here record their grateful acknowledgments to Brother Edward Jost, for his kind consideration and liberality in granting the use of the Mission Church, built by him on Barrack St., for Sunday afternoon and special services of the Association, and also for his cooperation with the Committee.

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The Prayer Meeting appointed to be held on the second Sabbath in November, for the purpose of offering supplication and thanksgiving on behalf of the Associations throughout the world, was held in the Grafton St. Chnrch. A large number attended and the services were solemn and impressive. Among the public special Prayer Meetings was one held at the rooms on Thanksgiving Day, which, in its addresses and prayers, was characterized by earnestness and sincere religious feeling.

Few stirring events have marked the history of the Association during the year; but one mysterious dealing of an all-wise Providence with us, demands here more than a passing remembrance, for to many a heart and home in our City has the loss of the "City of Boston" brought the deepest anguish. In our meetings and general labour we miss the kind sympathy and willing cooperation of some who are with us no longer, but who "rest from their labours, and whose works do

follow them."

In connexion with this sad event, meetings were held in two of the Churches, on the second Sabbath in July : and in the first lecture of our present course by Rev. A. Stewart Desbrisay, we find the following beautiful extract:-- "Will you allow me reference to an event which can thrill no hearts so much as yours, nor call up elsewhere such tender memories as linger in your Capital. One year ago, husbands and brothers were with you, that are now sleeping in the waving dep:hs. The ill-fated Steamship bore them from your sight, and then God, who buried Moses in the unknown Sepulchre of Bethpeor, buried them, where the widow cannot weep nor the fatherless plant a flower."

For the measure of success which has attended their efforts, your Committee are grateful to the Giver of all good, whose blessing alone

secures the desired results of Christian labour.

#### LECTURES.

Since the last Annual Report, lectures have been delivered by the following gentlemen, viz : Prof. Jones, of Acadia College, Wolfville, Rev. J. A. Rogers and Rev. John Campbell, of Halifax, and Rev. Leonard Gaetz, of Pictou.

The Prayer Meeting concluding the course was held in the Grafton St. Wesleyan Church, and was an occasion of much interest.

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The present course of Lectures was inaugurated by a Prayer Meeting in the North Baptist Church. Your Committee were glad to observe a marked improvement in the attendance, especially of the members of the Association.

The following gentlemen have kindly favoured us with highly interesting lectures during the present season;—Rev. A. S. Desbrisay, subject: "Broken Columns;" Rev. Edward Annand, subject: "One Whole Idea;" A. A. Stockton, Esq., D. C. L., subject: "Edmund Burke;" Rev. E. M. Saunders, subject: "Impressions of Scotchmen and their Country;" Prof. Elder, subject: "The Poetry of Alfred Tennyson." To complete the course, arrangements have been made for the delivery of five additional lectures.

D. HENRY STARR, Chairman.

# BIBLE CLASS AND PRAYER MEETINGS.

The Weekly Prayer Meeting has been held at the rooms as usual, on Thursday evenings during the year, and although your Committee regret that it is not attended as it should be, by the members of the Association, yet they are able to report some improvement on the preceding year. The average attendance for the year was 18.

The weekly Bible Class has been well sustained; the interest and attendance have increased during the last quarter, the number present having reached 60 on some occasions. Average attendance for the year 39. Your Committee believe this to be a larger attendance than in any previous year. In the general management of the Class and selection of lessons, they have followed the plan adopted by their predecessors.

A. PATTERSON, Chairman.

# ROOMS AND LIBRARY.

The state of the Rooms and Library, as compared with former years, is encouraging.

The Library now contains 2300 volumes, an addition over last year of 100 volumes, and this number will be still further increased, when the Magazines on hand for 1870 have been bound.

A Catalogue has been prepared and printed during the year, which has been found of great utility.

Four thousand, six hundred and twenty books have been issued, or about 15 per day.

The Reading Room has been kept well supplied with Provincial and other newspapers, magazines and periodicals. About 80 persons per day frequent the rooms.

The Library, Reading Room, and Parlor, have been made as attractive and comfortable as the fands at the Committee's disposal warranted. They would raise their voice in favour of more spacious premises, as the building at present occupied, though well lecated, is far too

small for the work of the Association.

The thanks of the Association are due to the Press and the publishers of the several papers and periodicals, undermentioned, kindly supplied, gratis, by them:—Chronicle, Colonist, Recorder, Reporter, Ottizen, Express, Provincial Wesleyan, Presbyterian Vitness, Christian Messenger, Church Chronicle, Presbyterian Advocate, Windsor Mail, Eastern Chronicle, Star, Free Press, N. S. Famer, Truro Mirror, Liverpool Advertizer, Colonial Farmer, Church Monitor and Witness, Church Observer, Record of Christian Work, Religious Intelligencer, Christian, Union, Brantford Courier, Montreal Witness, Presbyterian Home and Foreign Record New Dominion Monthly, Dunb Animals, Old Jonathan, Church of Scotland Record, St. John Daily Telegraph,

In conclusion, your Committee have to return thanks to the Giver of all good for the prosperity of this branch of Association work.

J. C. MACKINTOSH,

Chairman.

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## FINANCE.

There is a balance of \$30.48 due the Treasurer, besides which there are unpaid accounts already passed by the General Committee amounting to \$118.13; making the total liabilities of the Association at the close of the present financial year \$148.61, for which there are no funds.

The Committee have not thought it desirable to make a special collection to pay off these, some of which have just been presented, particularly as the usual time for collecting the annual subscriptions has arrived; but they would earnestly impress upon each member of the Association, the need of punctual payment of his subscription.

While they would record their grateful thanks for the contributions of the past, they would again call upon every friend of the A-sociation to sustain the good work being carried on, by more liberal contributions.

Your Committee acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of donations to the funds, from A. A. Stockton, Esq., M. A., of St. John, N. B., and from Professor Elder, M. A., of Acadia College, Wolfville, of ten dollars each.

The Association has, for several years, been fortunate in retaining the services of so obliging and careful a Treasurer as S. H. Black, to whom, on its behalf, we tender very sincere thanks.

J. B. Morrow, Chairman.

# THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Has met weekly (with one or two exceptions), and all propositions for membership have been carefully enquired into before being reported to the General Committee.

The list of members has been revised and a number of names struck off. Several of these have removed from the city, some of whom have united with the Associations in localities where they now reside. In this way the Dartmouth Association, formed during the past year, has received considerable accessions to its numbers. The Committee would urge the adoption of this course upon all members leaving us, and beg to call attention to the following resolution, passed at the last Convention in Charlottetown :-

"This Convention further recommends that members of these Associations, removing from one place to another, where such Associations are in existence, have furnished to them a letter of introduc-

tion, signed by the President and Secretary."

The messenger, Death, has entered into our ranks and called away several of our most highly esteemed members. Five of these were on board the "City of Boston;" their names have been previously reported to you. Four members have died in this city-John Brookfield. George Fenerty, William Murgatroyd, and the Hon. John H. The last named was a life-member.

Your Committee attach much importance to the recommendation made in the report of last quarter-" That new members be invited to attend one of the regular meetings, either on Thursday or Saturday

evening, to be introduced and welcomed among us."

Much good has been accomplished in other Associations by means of an Invitation Committee, whose duty it is to bring within the influence of the Association young men found loitering on the streets, in saloons, or questionable places of amusement, with due discrimination presenting cards of invitation to them, and by a friendly warning, or words of counsel, endeavouring to awaken serious reflection, and ultimate decision to be followers of Christ. The appointment of such a committee is in our opinion worthy the consideration of the General Committee.

One hundred and twenty-six (126) new members have united with us during the past year. Seventy-six (76) names have been struck off the roll, leaving the present membership five hundred and twenty-

five (525).

R. N. BECKWITH, Chairman.

# TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

For seven months of the year this Committee, with the assistance of some other members of the Association, have systematically prose-

cuted the work assigned them.

Every Sabbath morning the vessels at the wharves have been visited and tracts left on board. Whenever practicable the sailors have been engaged in conversation and invited to attend the Churches. The police station has been visited, conversations held with the prisoners, and tracts furnished to them. A supply of tracts has also been placed from time to time in the ferry station, for those frequenting that place. Eighteen thousand tracts have thus been circulated

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in the period above stated. Whether good has resulted from the efforts thus put forth, we cannot determine; but the seed has been cast into the soil in humble hope that it may yet bring forth fruit to the glory of our Heavenly Father.

The Committee have attended the open air services held during the summer at the Cemetery, and distributed tracts among those present-They suggest that next summer tracts should be placed on the sears

in the public gardens previous to the coming of visitors.

The Committee tender their thanks to the several friends who have aided them in their work, and particularly to the Rev. G. M. Grant fot a donation of two packages of tracts from the London Religious Tract Society. In closing they would urge upon their successors the necessity of systematically improving as they arise all opportunities for the promotion of the cause.

> JAMES FARQUHAR, Chairman.

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# STRANGERS AND EMPLOYMENT.

During the year numerous applications have been made to this Committee for employment, and assistance; in the majority of cases suitable situations have been procured, and pecuniary assistance provided for those who required it.

> J. B. Morrow, Chairman.

# LITERARY.

Since last winter no arrangements have been made to revive the literary exercises formerly undertaken. The active members have their time fully occupied with the more important objects of the Association. Several Clubs and Societies exist which, speaking secularly, are more attractive and congenial to the generality of young men, and such literary and social undertakings as would be consonant with our position and standing as a Christian Association, do not command a satisfactory attendance.

A more commodious and differently arranged building, with suitable lecture and other rooms, is much needed before any special

literary work can be successfully initiated or sustained.

As the revision of the Convention report and similar documents for publication has hitherto been attended to by sub-committees, it is suggested that in future the arrangement and preparation for the press. of reports and other documents be submitted to this Committee.

WM. H. WISWELL, Chairman.

#### BUILDING.

The Building Committee have to report that they feel more than ever the absolute necessity of a more commodious building. They om the are happy to state that nearly four thousand dollars (\$4000) have been subscribed, and that immediate steps are to be taken towards securing a site.

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# MUSICAL AND SOCIAL.

A fair degree of progress has been made in the department of work entrusted to this Committee. Three social meetings of the Association have been held in the course of the year, the first one in Mason Hall, February 25th; the second in the basement of St. Matthew's Church, April 5th; and the last in Mason Hall, Sept. 27th.

The gathering in St. Matthew's was one of an unusually interesting and entertaining character. The presence of a few ladies of the congregation, who kindly served refreshments in an ante-room, was a novel and suggestive feature of the meeting, which imparted no little-zest to the proceedings.

The meeting held in Mason Hall in September was called for the special purpose of hearing reports from the delegates to the Charlottetown Convention, and was rendered more interesting than usual from the fact that many of the younger members of the delegation addressed the meeting, who probably would not have been willing to appear before a miscellaneous public audience.

Your Committee rejoice that they have been able to procure and place in the parlour a Cabinet Organ, which is prized as a valuable auxiliary in the service of praise at the meetings of the Association. They would also record their appreciation of the services of Brother Wiswell, who officiates so regularly and efficiently as organist.

W. H. WADDELL, Chairman.

# CITY MISSION.

The appointment of the Mission Committee was the result of a proposition made by the Committee in charge of the new Mission Church in Barrack Street, that the Association should undertake to hold regular Sabbath services in that building, and otherwise coöperate with them in City Mission work. This proposal was gratefully accepted by the Association, and your Committee was appointed to carry it out.

They have met weekly, to arrange the services and for general conference and prayer to God for His blessing, which they feel He has not refused.

During the last winter the meetings were largely attended. On some occasions the building, which seats about 500, was insufficient to accommodate all who came. Marked attention and interest have been manifested on the part of many of those assembling there, and evidences of the Spirit's work have not been wanting.

On several occasions the Committee invited persons who were anxious about their soul's salvation to meet with them at a later hour on Sabbath for conference and prayer. Their invitations were responded to by a number of young men.

Your Committee confidently believe that these meetings have been blessed to the conversion of some at least of those who were present. During spring and summer the attendance was not so large as during the winter months, but the interest has been well sustained throughout the autumn, and up to the present time the attendance has been again on the increase. They look forward to renewed and increasing suc-

Your Committee have sought and secured the cooperation of the clergymen of the city in their work, having made it a rule as far as possible to have the assistance of at least one clergyman at every meeting. In this they are happy to say they have succeeded, and they take this opportunity of expressing their sincere thanks to those clergymen who have so cheerfully responded to their call for help, and who have rendered them such valuable aid.

Your Committee feel assured that these services afford an opportunity of bringing many of our young persons under the influence of the truth whom it is difficult to reach by other means, and they commend the earnest and prayerful prosecution of the work to their

successors.

JOHN S. MACLEAN, Chairman.

Halifax Young Men's Christian Association in account with the Treasurer.	
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# CONSTITUTION.

Revised and Amended at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, November 28th, 1864.

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# ARTICLE I.

That this Association be called the "Hallfax Young Men's Christian

### ARTICLE II.

That the objects of this Association shall be,-

1st.—The improvement of the spiritual and mental condition of Young Men. 2nd.—The formation of a Christian Library and Reading Room.

3rd.—Rooms and accommodation for Bible Classes and Social Prayer Meetings.
4th.—Course of Lectures on Religious subjects, as well as secular, having reference to religion, and the employment of every other available means, whereby the increase of vital religion may be promoted.

## ARTICLE III.

As it is the highest object of this Association to promote vital religion among the Young Men residing in the city, any person of good moral character may be a Member of this Association by the payment of not less than One Dollar annually, in advance. He shall be entitled to all the privileges of the institution, provided he be proposed by a member of the Association at one of its meetings, and shall be elected by ballot by the General Committee after satisfactory enquiry as to his eligibility. But no person shall be eligible to serve on a Committee, or be an Office-bearer of the Association, who is not a member in good standing in one of the Evangelical Churches.

# ARTICLE IV.

Any member, on the payment of £10 at any one time, may become a Life Member.

# ARTICLE V.

The Officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, a Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, Librarian, and a General Committee, comprising, as far as possible, members of each evangelical denomination, all of whom shall be chosen annually by ballot.

### ARTICLE VI.

It is the duty of the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, to preside at all public meetings of the Association.

It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to notify members of the time and place of meeting, attend the same, to notify all officers of their election, and to keep a fair and complete record of the transactions of the Association.

The Corresponding Secretary shall be the organ of the Association in its conference with other societies, and shall retain copies of all letters written by him.

The Treasurer shall collect and pay all monies of the Association under direction of the Committee, shall keep a correct account of the same, and shall report, whenever required to do so, to the Committee, and to the Association, at least once a year.

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It shall be the duty of the Librarian to keep in order all books and documents of the Association, to keep a correct catalogue of the same, and an account of all books delivered to members.

It shall be the duty of the Committee to manage all the affairs of the Association, to make Bye-Laws, appoint Special Committees, decide on all applications for membership, appoint a Recording Secretary and Librarian, and take whatever steps may be necessary for the promotion of the objects of the Association.

## ARTICLE VII.

That all the meetings of the Association and Committee shall be opened and closed with prayer.

### ARTICLE VIII.

That the Committee possess the power to suspend or exclude any member, whose conduct may be found inconsistent with the character of the Association.

Also any person failing to pay his dues for two years consecutively, after having been notified by the Secretary, and examination having been made by the Membership Committee, shall cease to be a member.

#### ARTICLE IX.

That no article of the Constitution be altered or amended, or in any way dispensed with, except six months' notice in writing thereof be given, and then only if recommended by a majority of the Committee, and by a two-third vote of the members of the Association at a meeting called for the purpose, regular noticehaving been given at least two weeks previously.

Book, Edward Clarks, B. A. Brack, St. Brack, St. Brack, St. Brack, St. Brack, St. Brack, St. Brack, B. Brack, B. B. Br

Binney L.

Burney, Hottey W.

Harmentall, C. H.

angual'T' Bookwith, R. N.

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Chapman, stry A.

Brown, C. L. Corrued & R. Danielson J. B. Pronous Companies G. H.

Countries James

Coloman, J. W. Jr. Donath, J. E.

Hedge Dr.

Happill, Walney S.

# LIFE MEMBERS.

Hon. ENOS COLLINS.

" M. B. ALMON.

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